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Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

December 6, 2021

Luke Rodda, PhD,
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, City and County of San Francisco
1 Newhall Street
San Francisco, CA 94124

RE: Intent to Fund San Francisco Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
for the Enhanced Forensic Toxicology Program

The Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch (SAPB) of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is writing to confirm that SAPB intends to provide contract funds to the San Francisco Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to improve detection of potent synthetic novel opioid use (e.g., novel opioids and fentanyl analogs), and opioid-stimulant polysubstance use as part of the Overdose Prevention Initiative. This funding is to cover costs for reducing rates of drug misuse and overdose within San Francisco and in other California counties. Contingent upon federal funding and final approval, the contract is anticipated to be for the amount of \$312,966.00 for the period 2/1/2022-8/31/2023. The contract is contingent upon receipt of funding from the CDC along with CDPH approval and work may not begin until the contract has been fully executed.

SAPB staff appreciates SFOCME's ongoing commitment to collaborating on the Enhanced Forensic Toxicology program. San Francisco County will become the primary model for demonstrating the feasibility and value-added of collecting detailed forensic toxicology data from multiple sources. This data will be shared with CDPH/SAPB to inform actions and interventions.

SAPB looks forward to continuing this very productive partnership.

Sincerely,

Shanna Schneider, Chief
Program and Support Unit
Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch
Center for Healthy Communities

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